UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO

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M. AMMAR ALKATIB,

Plaintiff,

VS. :

PROGRESSIVE PARALEGAL SERVICES, LLC, et al.,

Defendants. :

Case No. 1:18-cv-2859

OPINION & ORDER [Resolving Doc. 33]

JAMES S. GWIN, UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE:

In this employment case, Plaintiff asks the Court to confirm and enforce an arbitration award.

On March 20, 2019, the Court ordered the parties to arbitrate their claims.¹ On April 22, 2020, the arbitrator rendered a final award.² The arbitrator awarded Plaintiff damages for breach of contract, unpaid wages under the Fair Labor Standard Act, liquidated damages under the Fair Labor Standard Act, attorney's fees and expenses, and interest.³ On April 29, 2020, Plaintiff moved to confirm and enforce this award.⁴ Defendants' response was due May 11, 2020, but they have not responded.

"The Federal Arbitration Act . . . expresses a presumption that arbitration awards will be confirmed." 5 "When the grievance procedure has been exhausted, the courts have nothing left to do but enforce the award." 6 By failing to timely respond to Plaintiff's

¹ Doc. <u>32</u>.

² Doc. <u>33-5</u>.

³ *Id*.

⁴ Doc. 33.

⁵ Nationwide Mut. Ins. Co. v. Home Ins. Co., 429 F.3d 640, 643 (6th Cir. 2005).

⁶ Lattimer-Stevens Co. v. United Steelworkers of Am., AFL-CIO, Dist. 27, Sub-Dist. 5, 913 F.2d 1166, 1168-69 (6th Cir. 1990) (quoting International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 429 v. Toshiba America, Inc., 879 F.2d 208 (6th Cir. 1989)).

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motion, Defendants have waived any objection to the award.⁷ The Court therefore grants Plaintiff's motion.

ORDER

The Court **GRANTS** Plaintiff's motion to confirm and enforce the arbitration. The Court **ORDERS** Defendant to pay Plaintiff \$200,388.76 as outlined in the arbitration award.⁸

IT IS SO ORDERED

Dated: June 23, 2020 <u>s/ James S. Gwin</u>

JAMES S. GWIN UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

⁷ See Hood v. Tenn. Student Assistance Corp., 319 F.3d 755, 760 (6th Cir. 2003) (finding an argument not raised in trial court or appellate briefs waived).

⁸ Doc. <u>33-5</u>.